

Form: The painting is an exemplary example of Chinese landscape painting. It is seven feet tall and is a scroll painting,

(201. Neo-Confucianism & Fan Kuan, Travelers by Streams and Mountains)

Content: Boulders occupy the foreground and trees cover the background and middleground. From first glance, the painting appears to just be a snapshot of a mountainous terrain and a waterfall.

Function: The purpose of the painting was to invoke feelings of neo-confucianism.

Terms: Li - Principles; constitutes the underlying principles of reality. Nothing can exist if there is no *Li* for it. Qi - Vital force and substance from which mankind and the universe are made. *Qi* is energy, energy that occupies space.



Themes: The painting serves as an embodiment of neo-confucianism.

Context: The painting was influenced by neo-confucianism. Neo-confucianism was a Chinese moral philosophy. The conceptual pair of *Li* and *Qi*, two beliefs influenced the manner in which Fan Kuan painted. After the political disunity period (the Five Dynasties period), Fan Kuan lived in isolation as a recluse. It was in his isolation that he painted the painting. After seeking spirituality, Fan Kuan expressed a desire to seek a vision of man's harmonious and peaceful existence in a vast and orderly universe.

Research Tips (best=5 worst=1)

- SHVid content 5 images 5
- SHessay content 5 images 5
- S5e content 5 images 5
- other 4

